

It is fitting that each year we observe a day in which we reaffirm our devotion and respect for the institution of law, without which other human institutions would fall.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby request the observance of Wednesday, May 1, 1974, as Law Day in the United States of America.

As requested by the Congress (75 Stat. 43; 36 U.S.C. 164), I urge that our people observe Law Day with appropriate public ceremonies, through public bodies and private organizations, in schools, colleges and universities, and in other suitable places. I especially request that the courts, the legal profession, and all media of public information take the lead in such observance so that public understanding of the role of the courts in our society can be broadened. I call upon public officials to display the Nation's flag on public buildings on that day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirtieth day of April, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON

Proclamation 4290

May 1, 1974

### National Arthritis Month, 1974

*By the President of the United States of America*

#### A Proclamation

Arthritis and the rheumatic diseases are the Nation's number one crippling disorders, affecting 20 million Americans of all ages, causing them great suffering and limiting their activities. Arthritic disorders are second only to heart disease as the most widespread chronic illness in the United States today.

This disease cripples people not only physically, bringing them untold pain and anguish, but also financially. The total cost of arthritis to America in terms of medical costs and lost production is estimated in the billions of dollars.

Each year, as medical science advances through publicly and privately supported medical research and education, thousands of people receive

improved treatment and live more comfortable, more productive, and more satisfying lives. Yet, despite research efforts, this dreadful disease continues to be a major threat to human well-being. America must do more to treat and eliminate the curse of arthritis.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD NIXON, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 1974, as National Arthritis Month. I invite the Governors of the States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and officials of other areas subject to the jurisdiction of the United States to issue similar proclamations.

I urge the people of the United States and educational, philanthropic, scientific, medical, and health care organizations and professionals to provide the necessary assistance and resources to discover the cause and cure of arthritis and rheumatic diseases and to alleviate the suffering of persons struck by these disorders.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of May, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-eighth.

RICHARD NIXON

Proclamation 4291

•      May 1, 1974

**Older Americans Month, 1974**

*By the President of the United States of America*

**A Proclamation**

America possesses no greater natural resource than the collective wisdom and experience of its older citizens.

The first White House Conference on Aging, held in January of 1961, resulted in a Senior Citizen's Charter on the rights and obligations of older persons and represented an important first step toward giving proper recognition to our older citizens. The second White House Conference on Aging, which was held in December of 1971, broadened that recognition and deepened our national commitment to the welfare of the elderly.